

Newport Pagnell Rural District.



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

THE YEAR 1937.



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*To the Chairman and Members of the Newport Pagnell Rural
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1937. It follows the same lines as in previous years. The Birth Rate is 12.48 as compared with 14.21 last year, and 12.88 for 1935. The corrected Death Rate is 11.93 as compared with 11.42 for 1936, and 9.06 for 1935. The incidence of Infectious Disease, especially as regards Scarlet Fever, has been less than in 1936. The majority of cases occurred in the early part of the year, whilst towards the end there were very few cases. Housing has received much attention from your Council and considerable progress and improvement has resulted. The Water Scheme for supplying practically the whole District, is, one may say, nearing completion. Many houses are now supplied with a wholesome supply which formerly were dependent on shallow wells. This must be of great advantage to the Public Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT.

OFFICERS—

Medical Officer of Health	.. ..	C. H. F. Bailey (part time).
Sanitary Inspectors—		
Northern Division	.. ..	J. C. Nicholls.
Southern Division	.. ..	J. F. Hopkin.
Housing Officer (also in charge of Water Scheme)		T. Casstles.

Section A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	.. ..	61,686
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	.. ..	12,820
Number of Inhabited Houses	.. ..	4,267
Rateable value	.. ..	£55,113
Sum represented by a Penny Rate :—		
Year ended 31st March, 1937..	.. ..	£226 9s. 1d.
Year ended 31st March, 1938—(after Railway Refunds)	.. ..	£159 17s. 5d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Total Births	160
Males Legitimate	95
Illegitimate	2
Females Legitimate	62
Illegitimate	1
In the NEWPORT PAGNELL Sub Registration District there were—	
Males Legitimate	43
Illegitimate	1
Females Legitimate	29
Illegitimate	0
In the OLNEY Sub Registration District there were—	
Males Legitimate	52
Illegitimate	1
Females Legitimate	33
Illegitimate	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	12.48
Birth Rate for England and Wales	14.9

DEATHS.

Total Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	204
Males ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	103
In the NEWPORT PAGNELL Sub Registration District there were—							
Males ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
In the OLNEY Sub Registration District there were—							
Males ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Crude Death Rate ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.91
Corrected for Sex and Age Distribution					..	..	11.93
Death Rate for England and Wales				..	..	..	12.4
Deaths from Puerperal Causes—							
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Other Puerperal Causes		..	..	..	..	..	0
					Total		0
Deaths of Infants under one year of age—							
All Infants.	Males 5.	Females 3.			Total		8
Legitimate Infants—	Males 5 ;	Females 3.			Total		8
Illegitimate Infants	..	..	..	..			0
Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births ..	..	..	..	..			50.0
Deaths from Cancer ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There has been no change in any of the Services under this heading.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WATER.

SOUTHERN AREA.

The contract for this area is nearing completion. The pipe line is laid and a large number of consumers have availed themselves of the facilities given for obtaining a pure and wholesome water.

NORTHERN AREA.

In this area the consumption is still increasing. The treatment and distribution of the supply is still giving satisfaction. The Analysis of the water is carried out every 3 months. These analyses are both chemical and bacteriological and were carried out on the following dates, 6-1-37 ; 23-4-37 ; 15-7-37 ; 22-10-37.

In no case were *Bacillus Coli* or *B. Welchii* found in 100 c.c.'s. The water was found to be of a high standard both chemically and bacteriologically.

A further extension is in hand from Weston Underwood to Ravenstone with the addition of another reservoir.

The number of consumers in the two areas amounts to over 900.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

EMBERTON.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Ministry of Health, after the Public Enquiry held on Nov. 24th, 1936, required certain amendments to the scheme. These were referred to the Council's Engineers. The Ministry informed the Council that they could proceed to invite tenders.

Scavenging.

This is done by contract and has worked satisfactorily during the year.

HAVERSHAM.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensive building development has taken place both on the Manor Estate and on Field's Farm. 48 houses have been erected during the year. Sewerage disposal works on the latter estate have been constructed and are working successfully.

Scavenging.

For this purpose a contract system for the combined parishes of Havershams and Little Linford was inaugurated in 1936 and continues to operate satisfactorily. The new houses have W.C.'s.

LAVENDON.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The conditions in this parish remains the same as regards the system of drainage. The Council is awaiting the date of the Public Enquiry into the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme submitted to the Ministry.

Scavenging.

This is done by contract and has worked successfully during the year.

NORTH CRAWLEY.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The condition of the open sewer ditches both above and below the Rectory Park are offensive at times. There is a tendency of late to convert some pail privies to W.C.'s. Should this tendency increase the condition of the ditches would become worse, and the establishment of a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme would be the only way of dealing with the matter. I hope the Council will consider the matter in the near future.

OLNEY.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewage disposal works are in good structural condition and have worked satisfactorily during the year. Considerable sanitary improvements have been effected at the Junior Schools and the Church Hall. Pail privies have been abolished and W.C.'s and up to date lavatory accommodation installed.

Scavenging.

The Scavenging of the town is done by direct labour under the supervision of the Surveyor. The work embraces street cleansing in addition to the removal of house refuse.

SHERINGTON.

Drainage and Sewerage.

I am glad to report that the offensive pail privies at the Church School have been converted to W.C.'s.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

BRADWELL.

Water.

The mains have been laid. The Council Houses and about 9 other houses have been connected.

Drainage and Sewerage.

In the main part of the village there is a piped sewer which discharges into a brook on the western side of the parish. There has been some development along the New Bradwell Road and the sewage from this part discharges into a sewer owned by the Wolverton Urban District Council.

The Sewerage and Sewage disposal scheme submitted by the Council's Engineers to the Council last year is still under consideration. I think that when the scheme is established there is likely to be some building development in various parts of the parish.

Scavenging.

Since April 1st of this year the scavenging of both night soil and dry house refuse has been carried out by direct labour. Privy refuse is collected weekly and dry house refuse fortnightly. This new arrangement has worked very satisfactorily.

BOW BRICKHILL.

Water.

The mains have been laid. The Council Houses and about 38 other houses have been connected.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council's Engineers have submitted a Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme to the Council which has been sent to the Ministry of Health for approval. The site for the works is so situated that the works and the refuse tip will be together.

Scavenging.

The scheme referred to in my last Report has now been adopted. There is weekly collection of privy refuse and fortnightly collection of dry house refuse. The work is carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Surveyor. A Council owned motor lorry is used. This is a part of a combined scheme which includes the parishes of Wavendon, Bow Brickhill, Woburn Sands, Little Brickhill, Great Linford, and Bradwell. The whole scheme is working most satisfactorily.

LITTLE BRICKHILL.

Drainage and Sewerage.

This parish has sewage works. They consist of a Dortmund Tank, combined with precipitation by means of Alumino-ferrie. The effluent discharges into a series of open ditches. It is hoped that a filter will be installed which would further purify the effluent.

Scavenging.

This is one of the parishes included in the combined scavenging scheme of which I have given some details when reporting on Bow Brickhill.

CASTLETHORPE.

Water.

The Council have now decided to supply this parish from the Olney source in conjunction with the parish of Hanslope.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewers in this parish have 2 outfalls. One passes through a filter and septic tank, the other through a septic tank only.

A sewerage and sewage disposal scheme, prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers has been submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Scavenging.

This is carried out by contract. A weekly collection is made and has worked satisfactorily. Most of the privies are pail closets and any extensive conversion cannot be adopted until there is a sewage scheme.

GREAT LINFORD.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage is mostly slops drainage, but there are a few W.C.'s. The sewage discharges into a pond, which in turn discharges over a weir into sewer ditches. The pond and ditches require frequent cleansing and this has been done during the year.

Scavenging.

This is one of the parishes included in the combined scavenging scheme.

LOUGHTON.

Water.

The mains have been laid. The Council Houses and 27 others have been connected.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sanitary system remains the same although several improvements have been made during recent years. Considerable development is anticipated owing to the establishment of industry and it is hoped that progress will be made in the system of sewage disposal.

Scavenging.

There is no scavenging system at present. The Council have under consideration a scheme put forward by the Surveyor in which the disposal of night soil and dry refuse will be carried out under the same system as in the combined parishes. Periodic collection of tins and bottles has been made during the year.

MILTON KEYNES.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During February, serious flooding was experienced by the occupiers of cottages in the centre of the village. The flooding was due to abnormal rains. To obviate a recurrence the Council adopted a further drainage scheme suggested by the Surveyor. I think the scheme will have the desired effect.

Scavenging.

There is no scavenging system in this parish. The occupiers dispose of the night soil and refuse themselves. The gardens are large and this can be effectively done.

WAVENDON.

Drainage and Sewerage.

A ridge of high ground traverses the parish from east to west, thus the ground slopes downwards north and south. The sewer on the south side of the ridge drains into the Woburn Sands sewer. The sewer on the north side of the ridge discharges into a cesspool near the Leathern Bottel. Lower End, on the east side, is some distance from the main village. This entails a separate drainage system. Consequently small sewage works have been constructed to deal with the sewage from this part of the parish. These works are quite adequate, but a sprinkler should be installed so that the filter may work more efficiently.

Scavenging.

This parish forms part of the combined scavenging scheme. The work is done by direct labour. The pail privies are emptied weekly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. The ashbins are emptied fortnightly. Cesspools as required.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

							Northern Division.	Southern Division.
1. <i>General :</i>								
	No. of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	3,183	2,035
	„ „ complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	32	39
	„ „ nuisances detected without complaint	..	..	..	..	..	706	317
	„ „ Notices served. Formal	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
	„ „ „ Informal	..	..	..	..	..	325	212
	„ „ Nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	..	738	334
	(a) by persons responsible	..	..	..	..	..	738	334
	(b) by Council	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	„ „ Summonses taken out	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	„ „ Convictions	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
2. <i>House Nuisances :</i>								
	No. of Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	36	9
	„ „ Spouts cleaned and repaired	..	..	..	..	..	38	11
	„ „ Pavements repaired	..	..	..	..	..	28	3
	„ „ Overcrowding abated	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
	„ „ Dirty houses cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	20	7
	„ „ Other house defects remedied	..	..	..	..	..	215	129
3. <i>Drains, W.C.'s, etc. :</i>								
	No. of Drains cleansed, repaired and ventilated	..	..	..	..	..	76	16
	„ „ New drains laid	..	..	..	..	..	101	27
	„ „ W.C.'s constructed	..	..	..	..	..	113	12
	„ „ W.C.'s repaired	..	..	..	..	..	23	1
	„ „ W.C.'s supplied with water formerly without	..	..	..	..	..	19	—
	„ „ Earth closets repaired	..	..	..	..	..	12	12
	„ „ „ „ constructed	..	..	..	..	..	13	—
4. <i>Water Supply :</i>								
	All houses supplied with tap water (whole District), 2,397.							
5. <i>Food :</i>								
	Seizures of unsound food	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Surrenders of unsound food	..	..	..	..	..	10	11
	Weight destroyed	..	..	..	..	..	1425lbs.	1455lbs.
6. <i>Slaughter Houses :</i>								
	No. on Register	..	..	..	..	..	11	2
	„ of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	95	63
	„ „ defects found	..	..	..	..	..	22	4
	„ „ „ remedied	..	..	..	..	..	21	4
7. <i>Bakehouses :</i>								
	No. on Register	..	..	..	..	..	12	5
	„ of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	45	9
	„ „ defects found	..	..	..	..	..	8	3
	„ „ „ remedied	..	..	..	..	..	8	2
8. <i>Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops :</i>								
	No. of Dairy men or Purveyors of Milk on Register	..	..	..	..	..	68	24
	„ „ Cowkeepers on Register	..	..	..	..	..	190	73
	„ „ Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	205	141
	„ „ defects found	..	..	..	..	..	148	106
	„ „ „ remedied	..	..	..	..	..	139	87
9. <i>Factories and Workshops :</i>								
	No. on Register	..	..	..	..	..	82	15
	„ of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	220	21
	„ „ Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	52	6
	„ „ „ remedied	..	..	..	..	..	51	5

10. <i>Various :</i>	Northern Division.	Southern Division.
Visits to infected houses	76	64
Houses disinfected	28	12
Lodging House visits	—	—
No. of defects remedied	—	—
Removal of Animals improperly kept	3	2
Offensive accumulations removed	53	3
Ashbins provided	56	51
Building Bye-Laws contravened	61	16
Inspection under Building Bye-Laws	890	492
Sewer Ditches cleansed	51	16
Public Wells repaired	—	—
Water Service pipes repaired	—	—
„ branch pipes repaired	—	—

Section D.

HOUSING.

During 1937 Contracts for Housing were obtained for :—

8 Houses at Wavendon,
10 „ „ Lavendon,
8 „ „ Hanslope,
8 „ „ Weston Underwood,
8 „ „ North Crawley.

Of the above 10 are completed at Lavendon,

8 „ „ Hanslope,
8 „ „ North Crawley.

By the erection of these houses a number of families have been moved from condemned houses into more healthy surroundings. Also eight cases of overcrowding have been abated by re-housing in the new cottages.

Improvements to old property have been carried out by means of grants under The Rural Workers Housing Act.

A large portion of the condemned houses have been already demolished and the work is still proceeding. In dealing with slum clearance the worst houses have been dealt with under Demolition Orders, but a considerable amount of work requires to be done to raise the standard of many houses in the District by the provision of sinks, larder accommodation, coppers for washing and prevention of damp.

HANSLOPE.

Four cottages were inspected near the Church. One was found to be unfit for habitation and could not be made habitable at a reasonable cost ; consequently it was represented under Section 11 Housing Act, 1936. The whole matter was carefully considered by the Council with the result that assistance under The Rural Workers Act was given in respect of the other 3 cottages. As regards the cottage represented, the owner agreed to carry out the Council's requirements.

Seven non-parlour 3 bedroomed houses, and one non-parlour 5 bedroomed house, were completed and occupied during the year. Owing to the erection of these houses, several families were re-housed from condemned houses and 3 cases of overcrowding were abated.

LAVENDON.

Ten non-parlour houses were completed and occupied.

NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE.

Four Demolition Orders were made during the year.

A scheme for the erection of 4 non-parlour houses has been under consideration. A site of $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre has been acquired.

NORTH CRAWLEY.

The scheme for the erection of 8 non-parlour houses has been completed. In these houses tenants from 3 condemned houses, which have now been demolished, were re-housed, and 3 cases of overcrowding abated.

OLNEY.

3 Demolition Orders have been made.

Great difficulties have been experienced in acquiring a suitable site for new houses. This matter is receiving the attention of the Council. There are still a number of cases of overcrowding to be dealt with.

WESTON UNDERWOOD.

1 Demolition Order has been made.

The 8 Council Houses are in course of construction.

LOUGHTON.

1 Demolition Order made. The scheme for the erection of 4 Council Houses has been completed.

WAVENDON.

8 Council Houses are in course of erection.

HOUSING.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :*

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	731
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ..	1319
(2) (a) No. of Dwelling Houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	196
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose ..	196
(3) No. of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
(4) No. of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding Sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	101

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :*

No. of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	236
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*

(a) <i>Proceedings</i> under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) No. of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ..	144
(2) No. of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :	
(a) By owners	128
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil.

(b) <i>Proceedings</i> under Public Health Acts :	
(1) No. of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil.
(2) No. of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after formal Notices :	
(a) By owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil.
(c) <i>Proceedings</i> under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) No. of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	12
(2) No. of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	45
(d) <i>Proceedings</i> under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil.
4. <i>Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :</i>	
(a) (1) No. of Dwelling Houses overcrowded at the end of year	35
(2) No. of families dwelling therein	35
(3) No. of persons dwelling therein	222
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	None.
(c) (1) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	8
(2) No. of persons concerned in such cases ..	42
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become over-crowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	None.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil.

Section E.

MILK SUPPLY.

Much of the milk produced in the District is sent to large distributing centres, such as London and elsewhere.

The Farms and Dairies have been systematically inspected during the year. Many of the cowsheds have been improved. Where the cleanliness of cowsheds has been unsatisfactory, advice has been given and the Officers have worked with the Farmers to improve matters. In most cases there has been improvement, but where little or no improvement has taken place, a firmer attitude has been adopted. The greatest difficulty

of the Farmers has been the shortage of skilled labour, which is a serious matter where the production of clean milk is concerned. If skilled labour were more plentiful the standard of milk production would undoubtedly be raised.

Meat and other Foods.—The Slaughter Houses and Bakehouses have been inspected, and, for the most part, have been found in a satisfactory condition.

Section F. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE I.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than TUBERCULOSIS) notified during the year 1937.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever	25	16	
Diphtheria	7	7	
Pneumonia	7	0	
Erysipelas	2	0	

SCARLET FEVER.

The cases notified occurred in the following Parishes.

	Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.
Olney	5	4
Emberton	3	2
Filgrave	3	2
Lavendon	3	1
Hanslope	3	1
Haversham	2	2
Little Linford	1	1
Wavendon	1	1
Broughton	1	0
Stoke Goldington	1	1
Woburn Sands	1	1
Bradwell	1	0
	25	16

DIPHTHERIA.

	Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.
Woughton	5	5
Bow Brickhill	1	1
Hanslope	1	1
	7	7

PNEUMONIA.

	Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.
Great Linford	1	0
Little Brickhill	1	0
Bradwell	2	0
Wavendon	1	0
Loughton	1	0
Bow Brickhill	1	0
	—	—
	7	0
	—	—

ERYSIPELAS.

	Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.
Willen	1	0
Hanslope	1	0
	—	—
	2	0
	—	—

TABLE II.

DISEASE.	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Pneumonia.		Erysipelas.	
Age Period.	Notifications.	Admitted to Hospital.	Notifications.	Admitted to Hospital.	Notifications.	Admitted to Hospital.	Notifications.	Admitted to Hospital.
Under 1 year.								
1— 2 years.					1			
2— 3 years.	2	2						
3— 4 years.								
4— 5 years.								
5—10 years.	13	7	2	2	1			
10—15 years	5	4	2	2			1	
15—20 years.	2	2			1			
20—35 years.	2	1			1			
35—45 years.			2	2				
45—65 years.			1	1	3		1	
Over 65 years.	1							
TOTAL	25	16	7	7	7		2	

TABLE III.
NEW CASES & MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year								
1 year to 5 years ..								
5 years to 10 years ..								
10 " 15 "		1				1		
15 " 20 "						1		
20 " 25 "	1				1	1		1
25 " 35 "	1	2	1			3	1	
35 " 45 "	1				2			
45 " 55 "					1			
55 " 65 "							1	
over 65 "								
Total	3	3	1		4	6	2	1

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MEASLES occurred in the following Parishes during the year. None of the outbreaks were serious and chiefly affected children of school age. Castlethorpe, Emberton, Haversham, Sherington, Great Linford, Bow Brickhill.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Great Linford was the only parish from which reports of this disease were received from the Head Teachers of the Elementary Schools.

CHICKEN POX.—There were a few cases at Bow Brickhill towards the end of the year.

This concludes my Report. I am much indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors and to the Clerks for their ready and valuable help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

May 23rd, 1938.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1937, for the Rural District of Newport Pagnell

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES,

— INCLUDING —

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries)	85	2	—
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries)	79	1	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	84	—	—
Total	248	3	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	46	46		
Want of Ventilation	2	2		
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors ..	2	2		
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	3	3	1	
{ unsuitable or defective	2	2		
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Other offences	1			
(Excluding offences relating to out-work and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Total	56	55	1	

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

